LAKE BLUFF PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER 2025

off the SHELF

LEVEL UP SUMMER READING CLUB

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START

LEVEL UP SUMMER READING CLUB

PLAY

Ready to Level Up?

Join this year's Summer Reading Club at the Lake Bluff Library! Log books or complete activities to unlock rewards and win prizes. Visit **LakeBluffLibrary.org/SRC** to track your progress from home and power up your summer adventure!

LEVELS

Adult / Teen Summer Reading Clubs

6/6 – 8/15 | Teen Ages 13 - 17 | Adult Ages 18+

Participate by reading a book, attending a program, or supporting a local business. Complete 5 activities to earn a gift card. Each activity also earns a raffle ticket—collect up to 25! See the Adult and Teen Reading Log on **Page 3** for a list of prizes.

Children's Summer Reading Club

6/6 - 7/31 | Ages 0 - 12

Children can work towards a goal of either 250 or 500 minutes of reading this summer. Check in at the Youth Services Desk to report your reading progress and receive a daily prize. When you finish the program, you will also receive a finisher's packet, a paperback book, and a raffle entry for a grand prize.

BONUS PLAY

SRC Kick-Off | 6/6 10am - 12pm | All Ages

Kick-off your Summer Reading adventure with us outside (weather permitting)! The first 100 kids to sign up will score a special bonus treat as they start their journey!

Side Quests | 6/9 – 8/2 | All Ages

Visit the Library each week to take on a new challenge—complete it to win a prize and earn a ticket for our weekly gift card raffle. No cheat codes needed!

Jar Challenge | 6/9 – 6/27 | Ages 2 - 12

Guess how many items are in the jar at the Youth Service Desk for your chance to win a prize. You can submit one guess per day—make it count!

Character Hunt | 6/30 – 7/25 | Ages 2 - 12

Search the Youth Services Department for all the hidden characters. Complete the challenge and submit your entry for a chance to win an epic prize!

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THE FRIENDS OF LAKE BLUFF LIBRARY

NEXT

READING LOGS

ADULT/TEEN

Name: _____

Club (Circle One): Teen Adult

Choose one of the following activity options:

- Read a book (any format counts!)
- Attend a Library program
- Support a local business or charity

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

Phone: _____

Assign Raffle Tickets:
(1 Ticket Per Activity)

Adult Raffle Prizes
- LF/LB Chamber of Commerce Check ___
- LEGO Botanicals Flower Bouquet Set ___
- Barnes & Noble Gift Card ___

Teen Raffle Prize
- Nintendo Switch Lite

Complete at least 5 activities, then submit the log at the First Floor Service Desk (adults) or the Youth Services Desk (teens) to claim your prize.

CHILDREN

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Club (Circle One):

Level One Level Two

Level One | 250 Minutes
For every 10 minutes read, color in 1 coin.

Level Two | 500 Minutes
For every 20 minutes read, color in 1 coin.

Everyone
Color in at least 1 coin, then check in at the Youth Services Desk to receive a daily prize. Check in once per day.

BACK END

New Beginning and Big Changes for the Lake Bluff Public Library

Letter from the Director

Hello, Lake Bluff. I'm Natalie Starosta, your new Library Director, and I'm thrilled to be here! Thank you for the warm welcome—it has been a pleasure getting to know this dynamic and wonderful community. I'd like to give a special acknowledgment to the Village for their support in helping me settle in. I also want to thank the dedicated volunteers at the Lake Bluff History Museum for sharing their knowledge and passion for this town's rich history. I look forward to meeting more of you and becoming an active part of the community in the years ahead.

As I've spent a bit of time getting to know the Library better and its amazing staff, supportive Board, and dedicated Friends group, one thing has become clear: while the people who make this Library special are truly exceptional, our building needs some attention to better serve the community. While the Library is a vibrant and welcoming space, the building itself presents several challenges that impact how we serve the community. The layout and available space can make it difficult to fully meet the diverse needs of Library users, and as usage evolves, we want to ensure the space remains comfortable and functional for everyone.

Beyond these challenges, the building also has necessary maintenance and safety concerns that need to be addressed. Many of you may already know that asbestos is present in the building and will need to be managed as part of future improvements. Our sprinkler system has extensive corrosion, the exterior emergency exit railings require updates to meet current standards, and our heating and cooling systems are nearing the end of their lifespan, making it difficult to regulate temperatures throughout the building. We also need to improve accessibility to ensure that all residents can navigate and use the Library with ease. Addressing these issues will take time due to funding constraints, but we are committed to keeping you informed about our progress and plans.

While we work toward these improvements, there are many ways you can support the Library and help it continue to thrive. Stop by to check out a book, attend a program, or explore our digital resources. Bring a friend to a Library event, encourage a neighbor to get a Library card, or simply spend time in our space. Every visit, every book checked out, and every program attended strengthens the Library and reinforces its role as a vital part of the Lake Bluff community.

Your voice matters, and I encourage you to share your thoughts with us. You can reach out to me directly via email at **nstarosta@lakeblufflibrary.org**. Together, we can make the Lake Bluff Public Library an even better place for everyone.

I look forward to meeting you soon!

Natalie Starosta, Library Director

Welcome New Trustees!

The Lake Bluff Library is pleased to welcome our newest Library Trustees, Courtney Heck, Kathleen Reidy, and returning Trustee Bonnie Shaul! We look forward to working with you and appreciate your dedication to the Library and the community.

March with Us in the Parade! R

7/4 at 8am | All Ages

Spark some fun this Fourth of July and march with us in the Lake Bluff 4th of July Parade! Show your Library spirit and be part of the celebration. Volunteers will receive a FREE Library t-shirt, enjoy a volunteer breakfast before the parade, and cool refreshments afterward at the Library. Teens can also earn volunteer hours. To sign up, contact Jillian Chapman at **jchapman@lakeblufflibrary.org**. *Supplies for the Library's parade entry are funded by the Friends of the Lake Bluff Library.*

Spotlight Resource: Museum Passes

Did you know that your Lake Bluff Library card can help you access tons of museums and local attractions? From the Chicago Botanical Garden, to the Brookfield Zoo, to the Volo Auto Museum—we've got you covered! Call, email, or stop by the Library to learn more about our two pass programs: the Museum Adventure Pass and the Explore More Illinois Pass. Let us help you find your next adventure!

We want to hear from you!

Have you browsed one of our themed displays lately? Scan the QR code to tell us what caught your eye—or what you'd like to see more of. Your feedback helps us showcase the books you'll love!

A message from the Friends of Lake Bluff Library

Love the Lake Bluff Library? Support it by joining the Friends of the Lake Bluff Library, a local non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to funding Library programs and improvements.

Become a Friend

The Friends meet quarterly to plan fundraising efforts and vote on projects that benefit the Library. New members are always welcome!

Buy a Brick

Honor a loved one with a personalized engraved brick in the Library's entrance garden. Brick donation forms are available at the First Floor Service Desk.

Donate

Your generous support helps fund Library programs, events, and enhancements.

Learn more at **LakeBluffLibrary.org/Friends**.

R = Registration Required V = Virtual
All programs are in person at the Library unless otherwise stated.

SRC Kick-Off
6/6 from 10am – 12pm
All Ages
Kick-off your Summer Reading adventure with us outside (weather permitting)! Adults earn a gift card after five activities, plus raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes listed on **Page 3**. *Sponsored by the Friends of Lake Bluff Library.*

LGBeadTQ R
6/12 from 4pm – 6pm
All Ages
Drop in and get crafty! Design a bracelet that celebrates your identity or make one as a heartfelt gift for someone you love—just in time for Pride Month.

Afternoon Book Club R
6/17, 7/15, and 8/19
at 2:30pm
Join Carol at the Library for an insightful monthly book discussion series:

June
No Two Persons
by Erica Bauermeister
July
The Exiles
by Christina Baker Kline
August
The Mystery of Mrs. Christie
by Marie Benedict

Seeking Freedom: The True Story of Sara Lucy Bagby and the Fugitive Slave Act
6/19 at 6:30pm R V
In honor of Juneteenth, join us on Zoom for a special program celebrating Black American history. Robin Pease of Women in History will portray Sara Lucy Bagby and share the powerful story of her flight from slavery to freedom.

Dungeons & Dragons 101 R
6/28 from 1pm – 2:30pm
Ages 8+
Join Steve Hurovitz from the acclaimed Dungeons & Dragons podcast *Reckless Attack* to explore the history of the game, the basics of character building, and the mechanics of gameplay – and even play a brief in-presentation campaign!

Intro to Embroidery Workshop R
7/19 from 2pm – 3:30pm
Ages 16+
Join craftivist Shannon Downey for a fun and creative 90-minute workshop. All supplies are included! **Registration opens 6/19 at 10am.**

Starting Native Plants from Seed R V
7/24 at 6:30pm
Starting native plants from seed can be challenging, but with the right techniques, it becomes much easier. Learn how to stratify and scarify seeds—and discover which native plants require each method—in this informative program presented in partnership with Lake County Forest Preserves.

Family Bingo Night R
7/31 from 6pm – 7:30pm
All Ages
Bring your family and friends to the Library for Bingo Night! We'll have fun prizes for all ages.

Puzzle Party R
8/14 from 6pm – 7:30pm
All Ages
Puzzle lovers – this party is for you! Come help us race against the clock to complete jigsaw puzzles, bring puzzles to trade, and connect with fellow puzzlers. Puzzles for all ages will be available.

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VOLUNTEER AT THE LIBRARY

Students in 8th – 12th Grade

Volunteer at the Lake Bluff Library this summer! Apply at **LakeBluffLibrary.org/TeenVolunteer** to receive a calendar of volunteer opportunities.

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All Ages
Drop in and get crafty! Design a bracelet that celebrates your identity or make one as a heartfelt gift for someone you love—just in time for Pride Month.

Afternoon Adventure Club R
6/18 and 7/16 at 4:30pm
Ages 9 – 13
Stop by the Library in the afternoon and choose your own "adventure". We'll always have something for you to do, like cracking a geode or making scratch art, but you can also just hang out! Let us know what you're interested in doing, and we'll do our best to make it happen at a future club meeting.

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1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
Ongoing | Ages 0 - 6
Continue reading this summer and track your child's progress in our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. For more information about how to register, visit **LakeBluffLibrary.org/1000Books**.

Grab and Go Crafts
Fridays
While Supplies Last
Pop into the Youth Services Department and grab a craft to go! Every week a new craft will be available.

LEGO Drop-In
6/4, 7/2, and 8/6
from 3pm – 5pm
Ages 6 – 11
Drop into the Youth Services Department and play with LEGO bricks!

Drop-In Messy Crafts
6/7 and 7/5
at 11am
Ages 2 – 12
Bring your kid in for some messy fun at the Library, and we'll handle the clean up! Smaller children will need the help of an adult.

Jar Challenge
6/9 – 6/27
Guess how many items are in the jar at the Youth Services Desk for your chance to win a prize. You can submit one guess per day—make it count!

LGBeadTQ R
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All Ages
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Chess Club R
6/16 and 7/14 at 4pm
Ages 6 – 12
Whether you are new to chess, or seeking to hone your techniques, Mark Hamilton will provide chess guidance to help you improve your game.

Afternoon Adventure Club R
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Ages 9 – 13
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Family Movie Night
at Gorton Community Center
8/15 at 7pm | All Ages R
The Lake Bluff Library is excited to partner once again with Gorton Community Center for a FREE screening of *Inside Out 2*! Get ready for a whirlwind of emotions—and maybe even a few surprises! Register now at **GortonCenter.org/Event**. *Sponsored by the Friends of Lake Bluff Library.*

Outdoor Programming

Programs will be moved indoors for inclement weather*

SRC Kick-Off
6/6 from 10am – 12pm | All Ages
Kick-off your Summer Reading adventure with us outside (weather permitting)! Be among the first 100 kids to sign up and score a special bonus treat as you start your journey! *Sponsored by the Friends of Lake Bluff Library.*

Summer Science R
6/10, 6/24, 7/8, and 7/22 at 11am
Ages 4 – 8
Join us for some fun, hands-on STEAM activities and messy experiments that kids will be sure to enjoy! Caregiver not required to participate in program but should stay on Library property.

Storytime on the Green
at the Lake Bluff Farmers Market
6/13, 6/20, 6/27, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1, 8/8, and 8/15 at 9am
Join us on the green near the gazebo at the Farmers Market for a fun-filled storytime with the children's librarians! *Storytime will be cancelled if there is inclement weather.

Miss Katie Sings R
6/21 at 2pm
Join performer, Miss Katie Sings, for a fun time of music and movement! Enjoy new and familiar songs rooted in kindness, imaginative play, and community.

Chalk the Walk Obstacle Course
7/7 – 8/1 | All Ages
Follow the chalk on the walk to fun as you jump, wiggle, and count your way around the Library! Grab a piece of chalk and add to the excitement with your own fun actions!

Giant Bubble Show R
7/19 at 11am
Kids in bubbles? Bubbles bigger than cars? It's all possible at this spectacular outdoor bubble show with the talented Mr. Scott.

Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

CONTACT US

PHONE: 847-234-2540
WEBSITE: LakeBluffLibrary.org
FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, & YOUTUBE:
@LakeBluffPublicLibrary

ADMINISTRATION

Natalie Starosta, *Library Director*
nstarosta@lakeblufflibrary.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bonnie Shaul, *President*
Janie Jerch, *Vice President*
Bill Hayes, *Treasurer*
Alexandra Friedeman, *Secretary*
Jenny Graziano
Sandy Jardine
Matt Zaute

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held in-person at the Library and live on Zoom.

Tuesday, 6/17 at 7:00pm
Tuesday, 7/15 at 7:00pm
Tuesday, 8/19 at 7:00pm

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends is a non-profit organization that raises funds to support the Library.

UPCOMING FRIENDS MEETINGS

Friends meetings are held in-person at the Library.
Saturday, 7/19 at 11:00am

STATEMENT ON PROGRAMMING

All Library programs are free of charge and open to everyone. You do not need a Library card to attend a program. Library programs are presented to offer differing viewpoints, and are not intended as endorsement by the Library of views expressed by, or actions suggested by, individual speakers or groups.

PHOTO USE POLICY

The Lake Bluff Public Library reserves the right to use photos and/or audio/video recordings taken at the Library or at a Library-sponsored event for publicity purposes. Please see our Photo Use policy for more information.

Lake Bluff Public Library
123 E. Scranton Ave.
Lake Bluff, IL 60044

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LIBRARY PATRON

GAME OVER

BACK